

Amendment
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/646,774

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-20, 22, 23, 25-39, 42-46, 49 and 50 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 39, 46, 49 and 50 have been amended and claims 2, 5, 21, 24, 40, 41, 47 and 48 have been canceled.

The Office Action indicates that claims 5-7, 24-26, 41 and 48 are allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been written to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5. Claim 20 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of claim 24. Claim 39 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of claim 41 and claim 26 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 48.

Nothing in this Amendment should be construed as waiver with respect to any of the rejections in the Office Action. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of any of the rejected claims in a continuation application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to find the application to be in condition for allowance. However, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



D. Andrew Floam
Registration No. 34,597

EDELL, SHAPIRO & FINNAN, LLC
1901 Research Boulevard, Suite 400
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3164
(301) 424-3640
Hand Delivered on: July 14, 2005